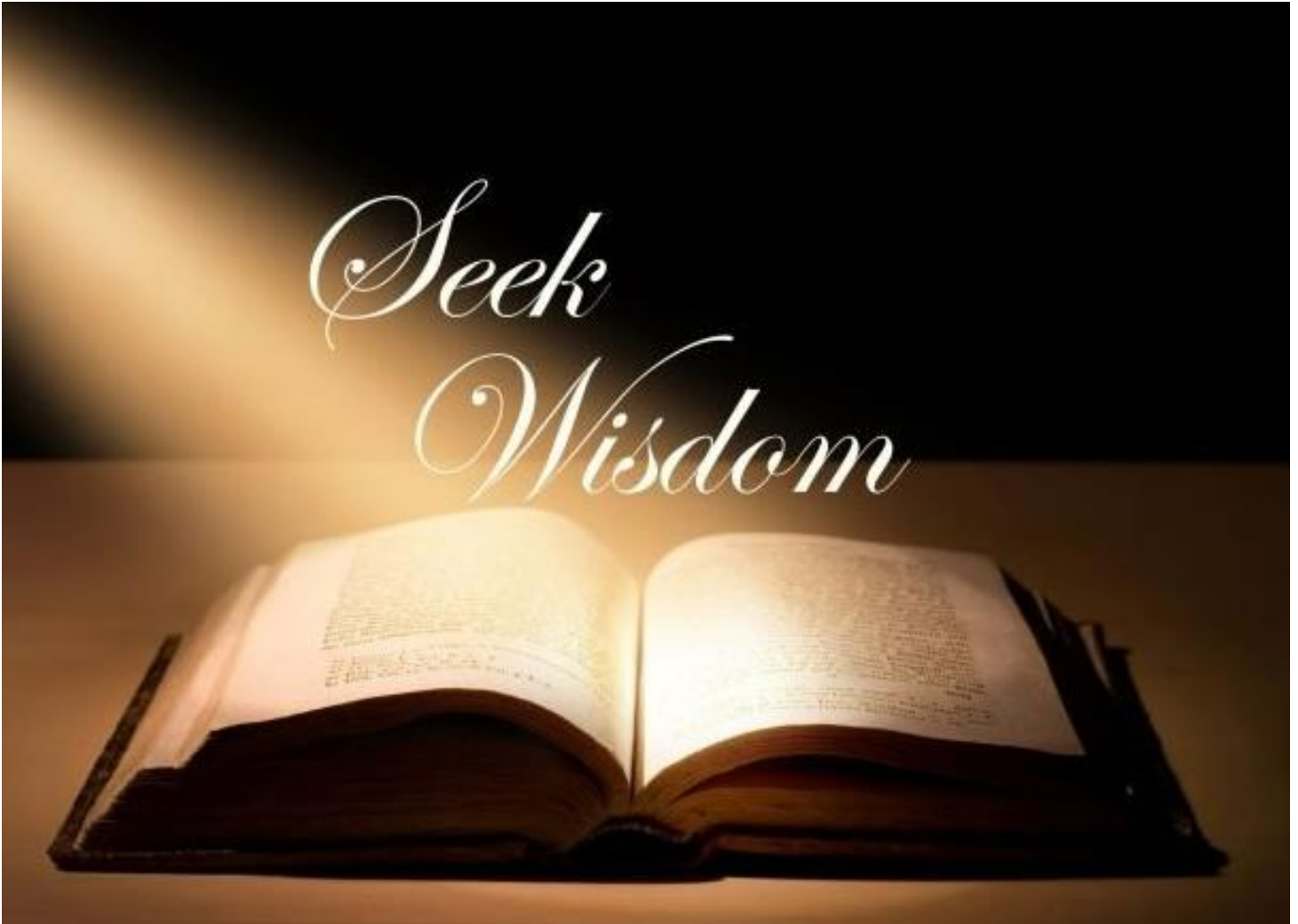


ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, August 18, 2024



1235 Summer Hill Road, Auburn, PA 17922
Pastor: Rev. Ken McDowell, cell phone: 610-207-4783
Church Office Phone: 570-754-7225
Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9am–2pm; Closed Friday
Church Email: summerhillucc@gmail.com
Website: www.summerhillucc.com
Livestream: www.facebook.com/summerhillucc

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Ken McDowell, Pastor

Music Director- Rae Ann Borger
Organist- Colin Andrew

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

This morning we remember in prayer, from our Schuylkill Association Prayer Calendar, **Members in Discernment.**

Please read the announcements that are in this downloadable bulletin, as well as those we post on our Facebook site, our emails, and our phone calls, and then help spread the word to those who do not have access to any of those messages.

INVOCATION

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

PRELUDE

The congregation may stand.

SOLEMN DECLARATION.....Sung “Amen”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord with all our hearts.

People: Great are the works of our God—the wise take delight in them.

Pastor: The works of the Lord are faithful and just.

People: Mighty are the precepts of our God—the wise regard them as trustworthy and true.

Pastor: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

People: Blessed are the teachings of our God—the wise apply them in all things.

Pastor: Come! Let us worship the Lord, whose faithful love endures forever. Amen!

OPENING HYMN NO. 2.....“O Worship the King”

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

Source of wisdom and understanding, turn us from the folly that surrounds us as we seek to live according to your ways. Fill us with your Spirit of power, and guard us from the selfish paths that blind us to your call to seek justice and mercy. Forgive us when we go astray, and bless us with your Spirit once more, that we may follow in the footsteps of your Son and live in your holy ways. Amen.

MOMENT OF PERSONAL CONFESSION

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Christ, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: All who ask in Jesus’s name, receive; and all who seek in the power of the Spirit, find.

People: We rejoice in this good news, let us be filled with the wisdom and grace of our mighty God.

Pastor: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

ENGAGING THE WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

READING OF THE WORD.....Lector, Bonnie Reber

Old Testament: 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14 (Page 292)

Psalm: Psalm 111 (Read Responsively)

Lector: Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

People: Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

Lector: Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

People: He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful.

Lector: He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

People: He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

Lector: The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

People: They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

Lector: He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.

People: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

Epistle: Ephesians 5:15-20 (Page 1020)

Gospel: John 6:51-58 (Page 929)

Lector: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE.....“Let Thy word abide in us, O Lord.”

SERMON.....“Seek and Ye Shall Find”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

The congregation may remain seated.

HYMN OF REFLECTION NO. 670.....“O Word of God Incarnate”

The congregation may stand.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

SILENT PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord, And grant us Thy peace. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

The congregation may stand.

OFFERING RESPONSE & DEDICATION.....DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

GOING WITH THE WORD

COMMISSION

Pastor: God sends us forth with wisdom and understanding.

People: We go to be a blessing to the world.

Pastor: God sends us forth to be honest and just.

People: We go to be a blessing to the world.

BENEDICTION

THE THREEFOLD AMEN.....*Amen. Amen. Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN NO. 14....."Now Thank We All Our God"

SILENT MEDITATION

POSTLUDE

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Portions of today's worship resources were reproduced or adapted from the UCC's Book of Worship, Worship Connection by Nancy C. Townley on MinistryMatters.com, and by Michael Beu from the 2021 Abingdon Worship Annuals edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture references are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. CCLI Copyright License Number 3253621 and CCLI Streaming License Number 20179084.

-Offering on Sunday, August 11, 2024: \$2,083.00
-Weekly envelope & plate budget for 2024: \$3,243.09

-Today is "Bring your motorcycle to church Sunday" and a group ride will follow worship.

-A Consistory Meeting will be held this Tuesday, August 20 at 7:00pm.

-The Senior Choir rehearsals will resume this Wednesday, August 21 and will continue each Wednesday evening beginning at 7pm. New members are always welcome! Please speak to our Music Director, Rae Ann Borger if you would like more information.

-It's time to register for Confirmation class. 1st year confirmation classes are available to any young adult turning 12 or entering 7th grade this year. To register, please turn in a completed form to the church office by **next Sunday, August 25**. Confirmation Classes will begin on Rally Day **Sunday, September 8** at 9:15 AM, with a confirmand, parent and mentor meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Ken.

-There will be an Outdoor Worship Service next Sunday, August 25 at 9:30am. Bring a lawn chair and join us once again amidst the beauty of God's creation on our front lawn. In case of inclement weather, services will be held indoors in the sanctuary.

-Our members, friends and visitors give their offerings and donations to the church in many different ways, to include electronically via apps like [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) and bank transfers. To help accommodate the varied ways of giving, we have placed an offering box in the narthex as well as offering plates by the pews in the rear of the sanctuary to place Sunday morning offerings as you enter or leave the sanctuary. However, we have heard that some forget to drop their offerings off, while visitors may be unaware of the remote offering collection. **The Consistory has decided that beginning in September,** we will continue to have the offering box and plates to drop off your offering before or after the service, but we will also have two ushers accept offerings during the Hymn of Reflection after the sermon as another option. Thank you for your financial support of the ministries of St. Paul's and your faithful giving in response to what God has given us!

-Please note that our regular 10:30am worship schedule will begin on Sunday, September 1. We will be celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion that day. **(no Sunday School this day)**

-There will be a **Board of Christian Education Meeting** on **Tuesday, September 3** at 7:00pm. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

-On Sunday, September 8, everyone is invited to come celebrate the beginning of our Sunday School year on Rally Day. There will be Sunday School at 9:15am, followed by worship at 10:30am that day.

-Following our worship service on Sunday, September 8, we will gather in the grove for a church wide picnic and enjoy fun, fellowship, games and food. Hamburgers, hotdogs and other snacks will be served. You're welcome to bring your favorite dish to share but it certainly is not necessary. You may want to bring a lawn chair, blanket and any kid friendly outdoor games to play too. We can't wait to see you there! Please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin table in the narthex to help in the food preparation planning.

-Mark Your Calendars for the **One Rock, One Community Free Community Music Festival on Saturday, September 14** from 11 AM-6:00 PM at the Stop 'N Rock off of Route 895 in Rock. Free admission & parking, FREE live music, FREE children's area including bounce houses, train, petting zoo, crafts and more! There will be food trucks, a car, truck, tractor & motorcycle show. **There are many volunteer opportunities for anyone who would like to help.** Please contact Pastor Ken if you are able to help in any way.

-The **Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry** is in great need and accepts all non-perishable food items and paper products. Items can be dropped off at the church during the week or placed in the shopping cart at the back of the sanctuary. NO OUTDATED FOOD PLEASE. **We will be helping on Monday, September 16** at 8:30am and **Friday, September 20** at 12pm. Please speak to Verna Ebling or the church office if you would like to help or donate items.

-**When you know your address (or your child's) and email for the upcoming school year, please share this information with the church office-** call, email at summerhillucc@gmail.com or just write it down and put it in the mail slot on the secretary's office door. We would like to have your information so we can continue to send the Newsletter, church mail and various emails. Thank you, and have a great school year!!

-**In an effort to keep our records up to date,** please contact the church office if you have had a change to any of your information, to include phone or cell phone numbers, email or home addresses, or any family updates.

-**Sound Board help is needed!!** If you are good with computers, please see Craig Borger or call the church office.

-**When you or a loved one is sick or in the hospital for an extended stay,** do not assume that the pastor will know you are there. Please call or email the church office so that Pastor Ken can provide you with spiritual care!

-**Our church services are livestreamed on Facebook!** When you can't join us in person, please join us on line!

-**Prayer is Powerful!** Please call or email the church office with your prayer concerns. We believe in the power of prayer and want to pray for you. **We have a prayer concerns email group for anyone interested.**

PRAYER CONCERNS: All those earnestly seeking God's help in difficult times, Military personnel & National leaders, *Trevor Schaeffer*, Joan Berkheiser, Aiden, Bob Hocker, Mark Ebling, Cheryl Zimmerman, Jonathan and Jane Warke, Mabel Edwards, Dick Clauser, Nathan Hibbard, Kathy Kline, Guy Fessler, Al Herring, Lori Edwards, Ron Mengel

CANCER PATIENTS: Wayne Alward, Boone, Marie Bleu, Alex DuVee, John Eckert, *Yvonne Edling*, Glennis Eifert, Joanne Forbes, Meg Goodwin, Rebecca Henderson, Sherri Jo Jennar, Deb Kemmerling, Norma Koperna, Holly Koscak, Joan Krause, Lori Krug, Carol Mallory, Carol Mengel, Tom Nagle, Judy Ohl, Pat Reading, Jim Thompson, Terri Willard

FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

Sunday, August 18

-Motorcycle ride following worship

Monday, August 19

6:30 PM -OROC Meeting

Tuesday, August 20

7:00 PM -Consistory Meeting

Wednesday, August 21

7:00 PM -Senior Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, August 25 *Confirmation Registration Deadline

9:30 AM -Outdoor Worship Service

***Lectionary Readings for next week:**

1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43

Psalm 34:15-22

Psalm 84

Ephesians 6:10-20

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

John 6:56-69